

12th June 2023

At a Meeting of Ashdon Parish Council held on Monday 12th June 2023 in the Baptist Schoolroom at 7.30pm.

Present.

Councillors Mike Elsey (Chairman), Mrs. Michelle Lee and Mrs. Alice Olley
Mr. David Green (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. John Moran and Martin Foley (ECC)

2. Public Representations.

Mr. David Bidwell brought to Members' attention the overgrown trees opposite the garage along the river bank. Some remedial work had already been carried out. To be investigated

Mr. Bidwell also brought to Member's attention the ongoing "affordability" of some of the "affordable" houses in the village. Some of the Housing Associations were charging increased amounts of ground rent and this, in addition to rising mortgages, is making the shared ownership properties very much less affordable to local people. It was hoped, he said, that the proposed additional new homes at All Saints Close would be of high design and quality and more affordable to those residents of Ashdon needing accommodation.

3. Co-option of Mrs. Melanie Horrigan and Ms. Jane Gray to the Council

Resolved – that Mrs. Melanie Horrigan and Ms. Jane Gray be co-opted to Ashdon Parish Council (Cllr. Mrs Lee)

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. Mrs. Horrigan and Cllr. Ms Gray to the Council and wished them well

4. Short Address by Councillor Foley on County Council matters

There was no report from Councillor Foley due to him being away

5. Short Address by Councillor Moran on District Council matters.

"As I am away at the time of your next meeting please find below my report:

Firstly as I have started work as the district councilor for Ashdon Ward it has further reinforced my view that being elected to public office is a privilege as is the opportunity to serve others. I have been appointed to the Licensing Committee, which deals in the main deals with licensed premises and cab licensing. I am keeping a keen eye on all planning applications that come forward and have already called in one matter in Little Walden for full examination by the planning committee and made comments on another application in Ashdon; unfortunately the window for call in on that matter was missed by the previous district councilor. If the parish council or any residents have concerns in regard to any planning matters please contact me, as the district councilor I can call any matter in within 4 weeks from the

time the application list is released to the public. In these early days of the new council there is no new information in relation to the Local Plan, which I feel will dominate the next few years of the council's term. I return from my break on the 18th of June and will check in with you then".

6. Election of Vice-Chairman for the Civic Year 2023/24

Deferred until all Members were present

7. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest for matters on this agenda

8. Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th May 2023.

Resolved – that the minutes of the Meeting held on 15th May 2023 be signed as a true record (Cllr. Mrs. Lee)

9. Matters Arising from the above Minutes

i Playing Fields:-

a. Rectory Lane. Equipment.

The RoSPA reports for all play areas had been received and circulated. There were no major defects. All matters arising would be inspected and acted upon.

The new Zip Wire stanchions had been installed at Rectory Lane. The final installation document had been received. The perimeter had been strimmed and grass cutting in all areas was now up to date following the previous wet weather when ground conditions were not good. The litter bin at Rectory Lane would be mended and the sign at the top of the steps had been re-installed. There are now two signs, one at the bottom of the steps the other at the top, informing the public that dogs, other than guide dogs, are not allowed in play areas

Church Field. Reports had been received about a rotten picnic bench. This had been inspected and would be removed and disposed of. It was agreed that, as a new bench is budgeted for, and with a delay in ordering, delivery and assembling the bench, that a new bench be ordered and installed in time for use during the summer and school holidays. Cost of bench £500.40 inc vat.

b. Lease of land adjacent to All Saints Close.

This is a rolling lease. No action required at this time
Resolved – that this item be removed from the agenda (Cllr. Elsey)

ii. Highways: Traffic Management. Nothing further to report

a. Report on decision of the Local Highways Panel. Condition of the gulleys in Radwinter Road, Crown Hill and Water End

Nothing further to report

b. Speeding and Highway Matters

- i. To receive a report from Cllr. Moran and Cllr. Mrs. Lee on the discussions regarding a 20mph limit through the village and county wide.

Cllr. Mrs. Lee reported that the “20 is Plenty” group in Uttlesford is progressing well. This group is campaigning for a blanket 20mph limit in all villages throughout the District. Councillor Foley is supporting the aims of the group. It was agreed that Ashdon should join this campaign.

- ii. To receive an update from Cllr. Mrs. Lee on the roadworks from Dean Crossroads, Horseheath to Linton.

Work will commence on the roundabout at the Bartlow/Linton crossroads at 8.00pm tonight. The road will be closed until October 2023. Diversions via Dean Road crossroads.

iii. Village Hall and White Horse House.

A further meeting was being arranged with Mrs. Danielle Frost (RCCE Village Halls Advisor) and Mrs. Jan Stobbart (RCCE Accountant) to clarify further points on the role of the Trustees and Village Hall Committee. Date to be advised.

Village Hall/White Horse House Electrics. Elliots Electricians had completed the EICR Inspection. They had informed the Chairman that, in their opinion, the village hall electrics did not meet latest specifications. They would submit a report.

Toilets. An application for listed planning consent would be submitted.

iv. Community Led Housing.

- a) Update on the proposed houses adjacent to All Saints Close

Meeting with the CEO of the District Council on the 19th July. Time and venue to be advised,. Cllrs Moran and Gray had asked to attend.

v. Neighbourhood Watch.

Village crime free. There were however, continuing thefts from cars in the district.

10. Correspondence

Various emails distributed to Members. Members had been requested to raise any matters received by email under correspondence. None received.

11. New Items.

- i. RoSPA Report on Rectory Lane, All Saints and Church Field play equipment

Report received and circulated. To be acted upon.

- ii. Winter salt scheme 2023/24.

Agreed to join the scheme in 2023 to keep salt levels topped up.

12. New Planning Applications

- i. UTT/23/1165/DOC. Application to discharge condition 3(hard/soft landscaping), 5 (natural England Licence) and 6 (Biodiversity lighting design scheme) attached to UTT/21/2047/FUL (approved under appeal APP/C1570/W/21/3287385).
Land west of The Vales Radwinter Road

Ashdon Parish Council has no objections to the above application providing that the existing hedges surrounding the site are maintained and reinforced with new planting. If removed or lowered the development will be able to be seen from a wider aspect thus destroying the rural nature of this area and contrary to the Inspector's report that landscaping was an essential factor in the granting of permission on to develop this site.

- ii. UTT/1204/NMA. Non material amendment to UTT/21/2047/FUL – provision of an LPG bunded tank to serve gas blowing workshop. Adjustments to location of garden shed. Amendments to workshop layout and elevations. Provision and changes to rooflights to main house
Land west of The Vales, Radwinter Road

Object. The proposed dormer is not in accordance with the Ashdon Design Code and is unacceptable in a rural area.

- iii. UTT/23/1207/TPO. 1 No. Scots Pine – fell
Hill Crest, Church Hill

Since Approved by UDC

13. Planning Applications Determined

- i. UTT/22/3183/CLE. Certificate of lawfulness for works to the cart lodge/garage to include the installation of a roller shutter door to each of the three open bays, additional roof height over that approved under application UTT/1453/11/FUL, the installation of a first floor, a rear facing dormer window and an external staircase to a first floor door providing access to the roofspace for storage.
Woodstones Farm, Newhouse Lane

Existing – Approve Certificate of Lawfulness

- ii. UTT/23/0763/DOC. Application to discharge condition 4 (Ecologic mitigation), 5 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout) and 6 lighting design scheme) attached to UTT/23/3316/HHF
Little Mortimers, Water End

Part Discharge

The Clerk informed the meeting that an appeal had been lodged against the refusal for two homes at Fairview, Church Hill (UTT/23/0447/HHF). In view of the date for any further comments being before the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council it was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan Committee should submit their views for consideration by the Inspector.
(Action Cllr Mrs Horrigan, Cllr. Ms. Jane Gray)

14. Finance

- i. To receive the Internal Auditors Report and accounts for the fiscal year 2022/23

In view of the ongoing discussions and clarifications being sought from the RCCE on the management of the Village Hall, that this item be deferred until the next meeting. In the interim the Clerk would seek a delay in submitting the AGAR and required documents for audit to the External Auditor

- ii.. Accounts for payment

Resolved – that, the Accounts, Appendix i, be passed for payment (Cllr. Elsey)

15. Items for the Next Agenda

- i. Public participation at Meetings (Cllr Olley, Chairman)
- ii. Allotments (Chairman)
- iii. Removal of fire places and chimneys at Carters Croft (Cllr. Mrs. Lee)

The meeting closed at 9.33pm

Signed Chairman

Date

Appendix i

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 12th JUNE 2023 15th MAY to 12th JUNE 2023

Monies Received.

£

H.J. Paintin. Interment of ashes re David Belsom

35.00

Monies passed for Payment

Playsafety Ltd. RoSPA Report on play equipment

298.80 Ch.No. 102856

TC Fixings. Fastenings for Coronation bunting

56.59 Ch.No. 102857

Ms Jane Gray. NHP Website and domain

158.25 Ch.No. 102858

St. John Ambulance. Coronation

158.40 Ch.No. 102859

D. Green Ink cartridge

33.39 Ch.No. 102860

Ashdon Village Hall Committee. Hire of Hall Coronation Events

382.00 Ch.No. 102861

MD Landscapes. Village grass May

748.20 Ch.No. 102862

NPower. Electricity May Account

42.90 Ch.No. 102863

D. Green. Stationery

76.18 Ch.No. 102864

D.Green. Telephone /Broadband

22.32 Ch.No. 102865

Balances at Bank on 12th June 2023:-

Current Account:- £18,794.83

Saver Account:- £1,075.94

Saver Account:- £58,782.41